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HOW TO SPOT FAKE

ILLINOIS DOCUMENT

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ILLINOIS STATE POLICE



A Guide
For Retail
Liquor
Merchants
and
Licensees

Jesse White • Secretary of State

HOW TO SP

All state licenses are

You can help stop underage drinking before it happens by learning how to spot fake driver's licenses. Knowing the tricks will enable you to check IDs quickly and carefully. This brochure offers pointers for identifying phony IDs. It is essential that you card any customer who appears to be under age 30.

Check the photo

- the customer and check the height most important
- Look for a photo over the old or new bump; look for cut marks; make sure the overlapping photo has
- Look for a state overlapping the Make sure the camera number is in or altered in

What are the tricks?

Following are "tricks" that underage drinkers use in order of frequency:

1) Impostor

A minor will present the driver's license of an older friend or relative. Sometimes the impostor will present a license stolen from someone old enough to drink.

2) Fake ID

Minors purchase bogus out-of-state IDs or phony licenses.

3) Altered ID

Underage drinkers may tamper with the photo or birthdate on a legitimate license.

Check the lamination

- Check for air bubbles and faulty re-seals
- Feel for an extention may be used to
- Cards that are thicker when bent slightly
- If the laminate contains holograms or graphics
- Don't worry about a laminate. There is normal wear and

- Verify that the photo on the card and



NOT FAKE IDs

ferent. Here are some things to look for when you check an ID.

the same person, and
This is usually the
tip in checking an ID.

that has been placed
feel for overlay
poor alignment and
sure that an over-
n't been drawn in.

al or camera number
edge of the photo.
overlapping seal or
as not been drawn
' way.

es, a loose laminate
ring.

plastic overlay that
er the information.

flexible or that crack
may be phony.

ss clear and lacks
lettering, suspect a

curling corners on
merely indicates
ear.

Check the birthdate

- Look for numbers that are altered – particularly the last digit of the birthdate year.
- Make sure that all lettering matches and is not typewritten. Check for erasures.
- Look for numbers that are drawn in, press-on, uneven in size, or cut out and replaced.
- Verify that the year of birth in the driver's license number (the two digits on either side of the last dash on Illinois cards) matches the date of birth on the card.
- Check the expiration date. If a card is expired, it's invalid.

What to do?

When you suspect a fake driver's license:

- Politely ask the customer about the information on the license. Ask questions such as "What's your middle name?" or "What's your ZIP code?"
- If you can confirm the card is a phony, call the local police or the Secretary of State Police at 1-800-608-0561 to report the crime.

Operation Straight ID is funded by a grant from the Illinois Department of Transportation, Division of Traffic Safety. Operation Straight ID seminars may be scheduled by calling the Secretary of State Police at 1-800-596-2522.



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Fighting Fake Driver's Licenses and IDs

As Secretary of State, I understand the importance placed on driver's licenses and ID cards to validate identification. The new digital driver's licenses and ID cards have several advanced security features to safeguard the integrity and authenticity of these documents. These features include an ultra-violet pattern, mini-printing and encryption.

The Secretary of State Department of Police offers free training seminars for retailers and law enforcement agencies on how to use these enhanced security measures. Operation Straight ID seminars train retailers in carding methods, identifying fake IDs, and discouraging minors from attempting to purchase alcohol. Call 1-800-596-2522 to schedule a seminar for your business or law enforcement agency.

**To report a fake driver's license or ID card,
call 1-800-608-0561, 24 hours a day.**

Working together with retailers and law enforcement, the Secretary of State's office is making progress in curbing the use of fake IDs and underage purchase of alcohol.

Sincerely,

Jesse White

JESSE WHITE
Secretary of State